Great Books for 10th Graders

Akron-Summit County Public Library

Acevedo, Elizabeth. **Clap When You Land**, 2020. TEEN

Sixteen-year-olds Camino Rios, of the Dominican Republic, and Yahaira Rios, of New York City, are devastated to learn of their father's death in a plane crash and stunned to learn of each other's existence. A novel in verse told in two voices.

Barnes, Jennifer Lynn. **The Inheritance Games**, 2020. TEEN

Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future. But her luck changes when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why, or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. Caught in a world of wealth and privilege, with danger around every turn, Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive.

Black, Holly. **The Cruel Prince**, 2018. TEEN

Jude, a human orphan raised in Faerie, wants nothing more than to belong there, despite her mortality. The fey despise humans, especially Prince Cardan, the youngest and wickedest son of the High King. To win a place at the Court, she must defy him-- and face the consequences.

Carson, Rae. **Girl of Fire and Thorns**, 2011. TEEN

A fearful sixteen-year-old princess discovers her heroic destiny after being married off to the king of a neighboring country in turmoil and pursued by enemies seething with dark magic.

Garber, Romina. **Lobizona**, 2020. TEEN

When her mother is arrested by ICE, sixteen-year-old Argentinian Manu -- who thinks she is hiding in a Miami apartment because she is an undocumented immigrant -- discovers that her entire existence is illegal.

Hawkins, Rachel. **Prince Charming** (originally published as *Royals*), 2018. TEEN

When Daisy's older sister gets engaged to the Crown Prince of Scotland, Daisy makes the royal rule-book all her own.

Kaufman, Amie and Jay Kristoff. **Illuminae**, 2015. TEEN

The planet Kerenza is attacked, and Kady and Ezra find themselves on a space fleet fleeing the enemy, while their ship's artificial intelligence system and a deadly plague may be the end of them all.

Khorram, Adib. **Darius the Great is not Okay**, 2018. TEEN

Clinically-depressed Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next-door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life.

Little Badger, Darcie. **Elatsoe**, 2020. TEEN
Seventeen-year-old Elatsoe can raise the ghosts of dead animals, a skill passed down through generations of her Lipan Apache family. Her beloved cousin has just been murdered, in a town that wants no prying eyes. The picture-perfect façade of Willowbee masks gruesome secrets, and she will rely on her wits, skills, and friends to tear off the mask and protect her family.


An honors student at Jefferson Academy, seventeen-year-old Keira enjoys developing and playing Slay, a secret, multiplayer online role-playing game celebrating black culture, until the two worlds collide.

Leno, Katrina. *Summer of Salt*, 2018. TEEN

Georgina Fernweh waits impatiently for the magic that has touched every woman in her family, but fears her gift will never come. Over the course of her last summer on the island—a summer of storms, falling in love, and the mystery behind one rare three-hundred-year-old bird—Georgina will learn the truth about magic, in all its many forms.

Lord, Emery. *The Start of Me and You*, 2015. TEEN

Paige Hancock starts junior year with a list of ways to take back her life, rather than spending another year as "The Girl Whose Boyfriend Drowned," and finding out that Ryan Chase, her long-term crush, is available again might be the key.

Mafi, Tahereh. *A Very Large Expanse of Sea*, 2018. TEEN

This #ownvoices novel follows Shirin, a hijab-wearing Muslim teenager in a post-9/11 world, who deals with Islamophobia while simultaneously falling in love for the first time.


Friends Hetty, Byatt, and Reece go to extremes trying to uncover the dark truth about the mysterious disease that has had them quarantined at their boarding school on a Maine island.


Austin Szerba narrates the end of humanity as he and his best friend Robby accidentally unleash an army of giant, unstoppable bugs and uncover the secrets of a decades-old experiment gone terribly wrong.

Stevenson, Noelle. *Nimona*, 2015. TEENGN

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.


In New York City, follows the breakup of teenaged best friends Cleo and Layla, told in alternating timelines.